

FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: April 12, 2012

Agenda Item: 2012 – 2013 Special Mountain Lion License Allocation

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Approval of Proposed Rule

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 30 minutes

Background

Season structures and hunting district boundaries are adopted biennially for all game species. This happens every other year between December and Final adoptions in February. The 2012 and 2013 mountain lion season structures were finalized by the FWP Commission on February 16, 2012. Adopted changes included a split or hybrid special license/general quota season in Region 2. The FWP Commission adoption also allowed an unsuccessful special lion license applicant to purchase a general mountain lion license valid in any open general license district in both the fall and winter seasons. This adjustment to special lion license allocation process was inadvertently made at a statewide scale—instead of only Region 2. At the March 2012 meeting the FWP Commission instructed FWP staff to identify a proposed correction at the April 2012 meeting.

The proposed correction is for any unsuccessful special lion license applicant to be able to purchase a general lion license valid for any open district statewide during the fall season and also for any open quota areas in Region 2 during the winter season.

Public Involvement Process & Results

Public comment on any adopted proposal would run thru 5 p.m., May 21, with comments forwarded to FWP staff and the FWP Commission. Any final adoptions will take place at the June 14 commission meeting.

Alternatives and Analysis

Proposals may be adopted as proposed, with adjustment, with additions, with deletions or no change from 2011 (status quo). No change would challenge the supporting justifications behind proposals.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

Given the inadvertent adoption and subsequent discussions between mountain lion hunters and the FWP Commission, FWP recommends this adjustment to lion license allocation process. The 2011 season structure and license allocation in Region 1 did not generate a broad call for change and in fact solicited strong support for no change from 2011. Conversely, the lion season debate in Region 2 was significant with some expressed concern from the public that lion hunters in Region 2 were declining. This proposed adjustment would potentially address that concern.

Proposed Motion

I move the commission adopt the proposed adjustment and correction to the 2012 and 2013 special mountain lion license allocation process as proposed by FWP.